

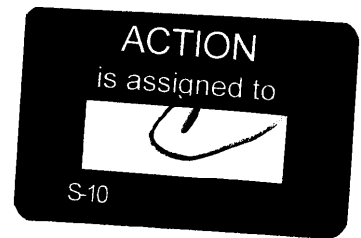
TRAVEL OPTIONS, INC.

(at Corinth)

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November 30, 1998



DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET SECTION
98 DEC 11 AM 9:58

The Honorable Pat Roberts
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Roberts:

I am writing this letter to you as a constituent of yours and an owner of a travel agency.

The recent decision of major U.S. airlines to cap commission at \$100 on international airfares is just one more step in the airlines all-out assault to drive the travel agent from the marketplace. By forcing us from the marketplace, consumers will have no choice but to deal with the airlines directly through 800 *numbers* and the *Internet*. This will ultimately result in the consumer paying more money for their airline tickets. This fact was recently confirmed in the "20/20" television program which clearly illustrated that when you removed the travel agency from the scene, the airlines can over charge the consumer at will.

I am deeply concerned about what the airlines are doing to force the traveling public to deal directly with them through their 800 numbers and the Internet. The airlines do not want the public to have sources of unbiased information on airfares readily available to them. We, the travel agents, are the only ones who provide the consumer with complete and unbiased comparative fares and schedule information today.

The airlines' new commission policy simply fuels the fires of concern about the lack of airline competition in today's marketplace with its fortress hub system and controls over the computer reservations systems. Please write the **Secretary of Transportation** and the **Attorney General** asking them to take the necessary steps to prevent these monopolistic practices of airlines from harming the travel consumer.

Sincerely,

Henry Salisbury

cc: The Honorable Janet Reno
Attorney General

The Honorable Rodney Slater ✓
Secretary of Transportation

412 I W. 83rd Street, Suite 101 • Prairie Village, KS 66208

Phone (913) 642-8888 • Fax (913) 642-8183

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Fran Parks

cc: The Honorable Janet Reno
Attorney General

The Honorable Rodney Slater ✓
Secretary of Transportation

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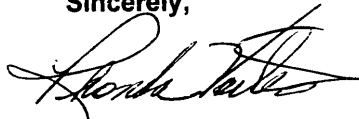
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Rhonda Voiles

cc: **The Honorable Janet Reno**
Attorney General

The Honorable Rodney Slater ✓
Secretary of Transportation

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Sincerely,



Sandra Hanes

cc: The Honorable Janet Reno ✓
Attorney General

The Honorable Rodney Slater ✓
Secretary of Transportation

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Dorothy Robertson

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Attorney General

The Honorable Rodney Slater ✓
Secretary of Transportation

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Paula McCullough

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Attorney General

The Honorable Rodney Slater ✓
Secretary of Transportation